



NEWS BULLETIN

SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT of CIVIL SERVICE OFFICE of PUBLIC INFORMATION

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May 2012

For **Y**our **I**nformation...from the **SUFFOLK COUNTY OFFICE for PEOPLE with DISABILITIES**
and **SUFFOLK COUNTY FIRE, RESCUE and EMERGENCY SERVICES**

INFORMATION FOR YOU and YOUR LOVED ONES with SPECIAL NEEDS...When a disaster or local emergency strikes, special shelters and transportation assistance may be available to eligible individuals who require assistance. The Suffolk County **Joint Emergency Evacuation Program (JEEP)** is a *voluntary* reporting program for individuals who require functional or special needs assistance. There are an estimated **280,000 Suffolk residents** that meet current federal definitions for Special Needs. To be eligible for this program, **you must pre-enroll** and provide the county with specific information allowing us to plan for your needs.

*For more information, and/or to apply online visit the county webpage www.suffolkcountyny.gov and click on the **JEEP icon** or call (631) **852-4900 Mon.-Fri., 9am to 5pm** to schedule an application interview. You can also email suffolkjeep@suffolkcountyny.gov for assistance or questions.

Seniors and people with disabilities may need to take additional steps to prepare for emergencies. If you or someone in your household has special needs, consider the following tips when preparing your disaster.

- Keep a 7-14 day supply of necessary medications on hand at all times.
- Develop a personal emergency plan for each place where you spend time – at home, work, school, and in the community. Include contact information for family, friends, neighbors, physician and home care services.
- If you are dependent on electric for life sustaining devices or mobility, plan for a loss of power. Contact LIPA “Critical Care Program” to report life-support equipment by calling **1-800-490-0025**.
- The hearing impaired may need to make special arrangements to make sure they receive emergency warnings. You can sign up to receive Emergency Notifications of an actual or impending emergency at the **CODERED** link provided at the county’s website listed above. Those without Internet access may call the **Office of Emergency Management’s Customer Service Center** at **(631) 852-4900 Mon.-Fri., 9am to 5pm** to supply their information over the phone.
- People with special dietary needs should have an adequate emergency food supply.
- If you have a service animal, make sure that it is registered for a service tag.
- Individuals with cognitive disabilities can be voluntarily registered with the Suffolk Police Departments **“Silver Alert” program**. The intention of this program is to have this information furnished to police officers who may be responding to an emergency situation involving that person so that they can better care for the person’s needs.